3. RESULTS OF THERAPY IN THE LUETIC ANTEPARTUM CLINIC AT BELLEVUE HOSPITAL

MORTIMER D. SPEISER

Efficient treatment can best be given in a "Prenatal Syphilis Clinic" properly equipped and staffed. A scheme of treatment is outlined depending upon the stage of the syphilitic infection and the length of gestation. Antepartum treatment not only reduces the incidence of premature deliveries but also the incidence of breech presentations. Postpartum morbidity is exceedingly high in patients with genital lesions who have received no treatment. Treatment in a similar group of patients reduces this incidence. Maceration and early deaths of offspring were fifteen times more frequent in patients who received no treatment as compared with those who received treatment both before and during pregnancy. Syphilitic live children occurred twelve times more often in the untreated group compared with the well treated group. It is never too late in pregnancy to bring about some good by the use of antisyphilitic therapy. Arsenicals given the pregnant woman are attended with an increased risk of reactions. Gastro-intestinal reactions, pruritus and icterus lead the list in frequency. While mild reactions are of almost equal prevalence in white and colored patients, severe reactions are encountered with greater frequency in the former group.

A SELECTION OF RECENT ACCESSIONS

"Possession does not imply approval"

MARCH

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